

and bladder to have been regularly impacted, one against the other. Occasionally two, but generally one only was seized by the forceps in their extraction.

5th. The membranous portion of the urethra preserved its integrity, while the bulbous was ruptured by the stones. The two deposits, the one in the perineum and the other in the bladder, were about two inches apart.

6th. The calculi must have all had a common origin—there being no difference in their shape, colour, or composition. Those in the bladder were, however, a little larger than those taken from the perineum. Dr. E. agrees with Professor Means in the opinion, that they probably originated in the prostate gland, observing the laws of crystallization in their subsequent accumulation in the bladder and perineum.

7th. The remarkable fact that Mr. O'Bannon preserved his virile powers. His wife has borne several children, and is now actually seven months pregnant.

8th. The speedy recovery, in certainly, what must be considered quite unfavourable circumstances.

*Case of Inguinal Aneurism—Compression tried without success—Ligature of the Artery.*—Dr. W. H. VAN BUREN relates (*New York Journ. of Med.*, March 1849) a case of inguinal aneurism in a man 25 years of age, of robust constitution, who in March 1848, had been jammed between the wheel of a carriage and a gate post, the former striking his buttock and forcing his groin against the post. Two weeks afterwards he perceived a pulsating swelling in his right groin, which, when he applied to Dr. V. in the following July, had attained the size of an orange.

Having observed, that the pulsations of the tumour were easily controlled by pressure of the trunk of the external iliac artery against the pubes, Dr. Van Buren determined to give pressure a trial. Accordingly he obtained the assistance of a sufficient number of his friends, and commenced pressure with the fingers upon the artery about an inch above the crural arch, on the 1st of August, at 12 o'clock, M., having previously evacuated the bowels, and placed the patient upon a hard mattress, under the influence of digitalis, by which the pulsations of the heart were reduced to 45 per minute. It was thought better that cold should not be applied to the tumour. During the first eight or ten hours the pressure was accurately kept up, and borne without complaint; some pain and restlessness then occurred, which was measurably relieved by morphia. At the end of twenty-four hours, although the pain was endurable, we found that much more decided pressure was required to restrain the pulsation in the tumour; this difficulty continued to increase, as well as the pain, which became very severe, especially at the time of changing hands, and finally, at midnight on the 2d, after having been faithfully maintained during thirty-six hours, it was found necessary to discontinue the pressure.

The condition of the tumour was apparently unaltered. Some inflammation of the integuments followed, at the point of pressure, which terminated in an impetiginous eruption, and two weeks elapsed before the parts were in a proper condition for the operation.

On the 17th of August, Dr. V. applied a ligature to the external iliac artery, at a point about an inch and a quarter above Poupart's ligament, adopting the operative method recommended by Mott. The patient was placed fully under the influence of a mixture of chloroform and ether.

The slightest possible chill and fever followed, within the first twenty-four hours, after which no morbid symptoms occurred. Adhesion took place in the wound—without any evidence of local inflammation.

The limb retained its natural sensibility, but became about 5° colder than its fellow—which difference in temperature has persisted, with very little diminution, to the present time. The ligature came away on the 17th day, and the slight fistulous opening left by it was entirely closed by the expiration of the third week. At the end of the sixth week the tumour had diminished to the size it possessed when first discovered, and my patient left the city well satisfied with his condition. At this time Dr. V. could discover no pulsation in either of the tibial arteries, although they could be felt to be tense, and apparently filled with blood.

*Trephining for Epilepsy.*—Dr. J. G. F. HOLSTER relates (*Western Lancet*, Feb. 1849), a case of epilepsy in a female twenty-five years of age, who has been afflicted with the disease for twenty years. On examination of her head, he found a cicatrix on the posterior part of the parietal bone, which she stated had been produced by a stroke with an axe when she was five years of age. On cutting off the hair, a portion of bone, two and a-half inches by one inch, appeared depressed; and the part was excessively tender to the touch, and was often the seat of great pain. Dr. H., therefore, determined to remove the depressed bone, which he did on the 25th of July, which was followed by great relief, the patient saying she had not felt so well for twenty years. At the date of the report, Sept. 11, the wound had firmly cicatrized, and the patient had been free from fits.

Dr. H. performed a similar operation five years before, but without relieving the patient from her disease. In this case a splinter of the inner table of the cranium, an inch long, had passed through the longitudinal sinus.

Some years since, several cases of epilepsy, successfully treated by trephining, were reported by Professor Dudley, of Lexington. (See this Journal for August, 1828, p. 489.)

*Iodine in the Treatment of Snake-bites.*—Dr. WHITMIRE states (*North-Western Med. and Surg. Journ.*, Jan. 1849) that he has used the tincture of iodine in cases of the bites of the rattlesnake, viper, and copper-head, in both man and beast, with the effect of putting an entire stop to the swelling and pain of the bitten part in from twelve to sixteen hours. He paints the bitten part over the whole swelling with three or four coats of the tincture twice daily, and should the swelling extend, which it almost always does after the first application, if made soon after the infliction of the wound, he repeats the application. The third application puts a stop to the extension of the swelling, and three or four more will generally restore the limb to its natural state, except, perhaps, sensibility to the touch, and soreness of the muscles.

*Cholera in New Orleans.*—We extract the following interesting account of the origin and progress of the late visitation of cholera at New Orleans, from a letter by Dr. E. D. FENNER.

"The commencement of the late epidemic," Dr. Fenner states, "may be dated from the 11th of December, when the ship 'Swanton' arrived at this port thirty-nine days from Havre, with 280 steerage passengers, consisting of German and French immigrants—chiefly German. Now, whether it be a mere coincidence that epidemic cholera broke out in this city just at the time when a vessel arrived having some cases of cholera on board, or that said vessel brought the infection, which rapidly spread through the whole community, is an exceedingly debatable question. But let me go on with a statement of such facts and circumstances as I have, before I attempt to debate it. The whole subject is replete with interest. Everything connected with it is new to me, and I will endeavour to make the most rational induction in my power, having no preconceived theory to substantiate.

"For several weeks previous to the arrival of the 'Swanton,' the weather had been changeable—for the most part very warm, though there had been several white frosts. Yellow fever had almost disappeared, and there was but little sickness prevailing; though amongst the existing diseases were observed some remarkable cases of stomach and bowel complaints. On the 5th of December, I attended a gentleman on Custom-house street, who laboured under vomiting, pain and spasms in the bowels, and prostration to such a degree that, if epidemic cholera had been supposed to be here, no person would have hesitated to pronounce him a case. He had no rice water evacuations, but his bowels were rather costive, and he vomited bile; but many such cases have been seen since the epidemic was declared. He recovered after two or three days' illness, and has not been again sick.

"Some days previous to this, three or four negroes were attacked with cholera morbus on the same night and at the same house, in Gravier street. They were promptly treated, and all soon recovered. Similar cases were observed in